**PATENT** S/N Unknown

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Christophe Pierrat et al.

Examiner: Unknown

Serial No.:

Unknown

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed:

Herewith

Docket: 303.311US2

Title:

METHOD FOR OPTIMIZING PRINTING OF A PHASE SHIFT MASK

HAVING A PHASE SHIFT ERROR

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

In compliance with the duty imposed by 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 et. seq., the enclosed materials are brought to the attention of the Examiner for review in connection with the above-identified patent application. Pursuant to the provisions of MPEP 609, Applicants request that a copy of the 1449 form, initialed as being considered by the Examiner be returned to the Applicants.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of the listed documents are not provided as these references were previously cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent Office in connection with Applicants' prior U.S. application, Serial No. 09/031,639, filed on February 27, 1998, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120.

Applicants respectfully request consideration of these references during prosecution of the above-identified matter. The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' Representative at the below-listed telephone number if there are any questions regarding this communication.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTOPHE PIERRAT ET AL.

By their Representatives,

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

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Date of Deposit: February 11, 2000

Thereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Past Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Shawn Hise

Signature